



International
Labour
Organization

From Protocol to Practice: A Bridge to Global Action on Forced Labour (The Bridge Project)

April/2021

► At a glance



Partners

- Ministry of Land Management, Cooperatives and Poverty Alleviation (MoLMCPA)
- Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security (MoLESS)
- Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen (MoWCSC)
- Rastriya Mukta Haliya Samaj Federation, Nepal (RMHSF-N)
- Workers' and Employers' Organizations



Donor

United States Department of Labor (USDOL)



Duration

2 September 2015 – 2 January 2022



Target beneficiaries

Victims of forced labour and trafficking particularly the bonded labourers (freed *Haliyas* and *Haruwa-Charuwas*), migrant and potential migrant workers

Ultimate Beneficiaries:

- All workers who are vulnerable to trafficking and forced labour
- All the stakeholders and policy makers on labour issues including ILO constituents



Geographical focus

- Nepal: Across country for policy issues
- Three provinces covering six districts (*Kanchanpur* and *Bajura* in *Sudurpaschim* Province; *Surkhet* and *Jajarkot* in *Karnali* Province and *Siraha* and *Saptari* in Province 2) for direct support to beneficiaries

► Project objectives

The objective of Bridge Project is to effectively eliminate traditional and modern slavery/forced labour systems and to significantly reduce contemporary forms of forced labour, which are often linked to human trafficking through the following objectives:

- Increased knowledge, awareness, and ratification of the ILO Forced Labour Protocol and Recommendation;
- Improved and responsive national policies and/or action plans and/or legislation on forced labour with strong implementation, monitoring, and enforcement mechanisms;
- Increased efforts to collect reliable data in order to carry out research and share knowledge across institutions at national, regional, and global levels;
- Workers' and employers' organizations actively support the fight against forced labour;
- Strengthened awareness of services and livelihood programs for victims of forced labour

► Project outcome

- Increased public awareness and knowledge on the issue of forced labour
- Updated Policies and/or Integrated National Action Plans and/or legislations
- Enhanced knowledge among individuals from relevant institutions to combat forced labour
- Increased data available on forced labour
- Increased involvement of Workers' organizations, Employers' organizations, business and other stakeholders in the fight against forced labour
- Forced labour victims with increased livelihood opportunities and access to information on relevant services

► Main activities

Awareness raising

- Development of Public Service Announcement, documentary films, impact stories and other educational materials on forced labour issues
- Formation of the Forced Labour Elimination Advocacy Group (FLEAG)
- Implementation of advocacy and awareness raising programs at national and provincial level on the ILO Forced Labour Protocol and Recommendation

Capacity building

- Training for journalists on forced labour issues
- Revision of the national plan of action on anti-trafficking
- Build capacity of at least two local governments on provincial law and regulations to address forced labour
- Preparation and/or adaptation of training manual on forced labour
- Training of Judges, Labour Lawyers, Trade Union representatives, Nepal Police, Labour Inspector, and Civil Society representatives on forced labour, bonded labour and trafficking

Research

- Review of cases of trafficking for labour exploitation for deeper analysis
- Technical support provided for the integration of a forced labour module into the National Labour Force Survey
- Conduct employment relationship survey in the Brick Industry in Nepal
- Conduct research on the agriculture based forced labour (*Haruwa-Charuwa*) population

Partnerships

- Collaboration for the preparation of Regulations for the Bonded Labour Act

- Technical assistance provided to the government to review provincial laws on forced labour
- Technical support to employers organizations and workers organizations in specific sectors on ILO forced labour protocol and national laws to fight forced and child labour

Victim support

- Establish partnership with government and/or local organizations to provide livelihood support and post-training support to victims of forced labour
- Capacity building of forced labour organizations to advocate for better livelihood programs for freed *Haliyas*, *Haruwa-Charuwas*
- Direct livelihood support to selected victims (freed *Haliyas* and *Haruwa-Charuwas*) of forced labour in specific districts, that compliments the Government's rehabilitation plan



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